

LETTER OF AGREEMENT

between the

Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)

and the

Vanuatu Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)

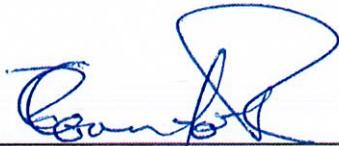
relating to the

Building climate resilience in urban agro-ecological systems through more efficient and sustainable use of natural resources – Port Vila Food Security and Community Resilience to Climate Change EbA Demonstration Project

This LETTER OF AGREEMENT (LoA) is made between the **Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)** and **Vanuatu Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)** relating to the Port Vila Food Security and Community Resilience to Climate Change project under the Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change project. This LoA is under the Government Agreement between SPREP and the Government of Vanuatu.

SPREP and DARD have agreed to collaborate on the abovementioned activity, and it is now further agreed that each party:

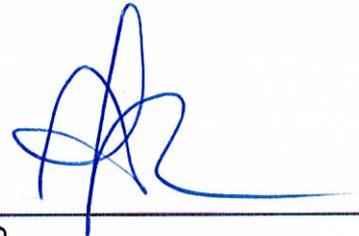
1. Agree to work according to the attached Terms of Reference.
2. SPREP and DARD shall co-operate to carry out the obligations in this Agreement in good faith.
3. SPREP and DARD will work together to ensure rigorous financial management that meets both organisation's financial regulations.
4. SPREP and DARD may request each other to make variations to this Agreement. Requests for variations shall not be unreasonably withheld.



Roger Cornforth
Acting Director General
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Programme (SPREP)

Date:

8/5/2019



Antoine Ravo
Director
Department of Agriculture and Rural
Development

Date:

21/05/2019

Terms of Reference

Background

The Pacific Ecosystem-based Adaptation to Climate Change (PEBACC) project promotes the integration of ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA) into development, climate change adaptation and natural resource management policy and planning processes. It is funded by the German Federal Ministry of Environment and is implemented by SPREP in partnership with the governments of Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands.

Ecosystem-based adaptation is a climate change adaptation strategy that reduces vulnerability by strengthening the resilience of socio-economic systems through protecting and optimising the sustainable use of ecosystem services and biodiversity. It is based on the recognition that healthy and intact ecosystems provide a buffer against climate hazards; and conversely that degraded ecosystems increase socio-economic vulnerability to climate change.

Port Vila is a PEBACC project site and in 2018 the project conducted an Ecosystem and Socio-economic Resilience Analysis and Mapping (ESRAM) for the municipal and immediately adjacent areas. Taking a 'ridge-to-reef' approach, the study encompassed the main watersheds serving the city as well as the coastal zone. It found that there was a high dependence by residents of Port Vila on their ecosystems and natural resources for livelihood purposes. This was particularly the case with respect to food production with an unusually large proportion of residents (for an urban area) engaging in home and bush-based gardening. Port Vila has a rapidly expanding population and the ESRAM also found that the growth in bush-based gardening and associated harvesting of natural resources is degrading the city's ecosystems and is unsustainable from an ecological perspective. This in turn is reducing the quality and quantity of the city's ecosystem services and consequently increasing the vulnerability of its residents to climate hazards.

Port Vila Food Security and Community Resilience to Climate Change Project

The Port Vila Food Security and Community Resilience to Climate Change EbA demonstration project seeks to showcase and promote an alternative approach to urban agricultural production – one that makes more ecologically and economically efficient use of natural resources and ecosystem services. In so doing it will draw on permaculture and associated ecological principles and it will target the most vulnerable communities.

More specifically the project will promote ecologically sustainable intensification of production in local food gardens; explore alternatives to current patterns of tree exploitation for firewood; trial cultivation of medicinal plants and construction materials, and encourage production of mat and basket-making materials. The project has been designed to directly address some of the main drivers of ecosystem degradation thereby seeking to restore and protect the ecosystem services that provide climate resilience to Port Vila residents.

The demonstration project will encompass the following activities:

- Establishment of a demonstration permaculture food garden
- Use of the demonstration garden as a learning site for local communities
- Support to local communities in transferring new technical knowledge to their home or shared communal gardens
- Promote more ecologically sustainable alternatives to current patterns of non-food use of natural resources such as firewood harvesting, medicinal plants and construction materials
- Increase the preservation and storage of produce from home gardens
- Encourage the growing and consuming of traditional root vegetables to improve nutrition
- Promote and make available climate resilient seeds and seedlings to support urban gardens across the greater Port Vila region (in partnership with SPC/DARD seed bank project)

These activities will improve residents' resilience to a number of climate and non-climate stressors, such as increased intensity of tropical storms, prolonged droughts, food and water scarcity, non-communicable diseases and poverty.

The **Vanuatu Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD)** is a key partner in implementing the above activities. In this regard DARD agrees to:

- Together with SPREP implement the activities listed above, through workshops, training and events, both to communities involved in the project, and to a wider urban audience
- Together with SPREP promote the principle of working with nature in order to build the resilience of communities involved in the project
- Support and build the capacity of DARD's Urban Extension Officer in permaculture and related conservation approaches
- Prioritise urban communities for the development of urban gardens
- Explore and promote partnerships with NGOs and CBOs working in the same space, in particular the Horticulture and Nutrition team at Wan Smolbag
- Manage aspects of the finances and construction of the community gardens within the greater Port Vila region (to be determined in the joint work-plan which will be developed jointly between SPREP, DARD and Wan Smol Bag)
- Facilitate the sourcing of materials required for this project
- Be the primary contact point for the communities involved in this project.

- Provide ongoing support to all communities involved in this project after the project is completed

SPREP Agrees to:

- Provide financial support for the Port Vila Food Security and Community Resilience to Climate Change project under the broader PEBACC project
- Coordinate between DARD and Wan Smolbag to create a demonstration community Urban Food Garden
- Work with DARD officers to ensure sustainable community gardens are established in the greater Port Vila area
- Support DARD, where possible, in ensuring the importance of urban gardens is actively communicated and prioritised by relevant stakeholders in Port Vila.

Financial modality

The SPREP PEBACC office in Vanuatu will retain control of the financial management of the project in accordance with SPREP's accounting procedures. In this regard it will be necessary for DARD provide required quotations in line with the approved work-plan and in accordance with SPREP regulations. DARD will be responsible for sourcing and submitting relevant invoices and receipts.

SPREP will pay approved bills on confirmation from DARD and SPREP Vanuatu PEBACC staff that the work has been carried out satisfactorily.

	<i>Project Total</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>
Port Vila Project 1 - Urban Gardens				
<u>Personnel:</u>				
One full time staff member supported for the demonstration garden	6,000.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	1,500.00
Two part time staff members supported for the demonstration garden	6,000.00	1,500.00	3,000.00	1,500.00
Permaculture consultant	10,000.00	4,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
<u>Travel:</u>				
Travel Costs Study Visit	8,000.00	2,000.00	5,000.00	1,000.00
Subsistence Allowance for Study Visits	10,000.00	2,500.00	6,000.00	1,500.00
<u>Materials:</u>				
Seeds	10,000.00	2,500.00	5,000.00	2,500.00
Equipment	12,500.00	3,250.00	6,000.00	3,250.00
<u>Training:</u>				
10 Workshops	4,000.00	1,000.00	2,000.00	1,000.00
TOTAL	66,500.00	18,250.00	35,000.00	13,250.00